



**“CENTRE DE PERFECCIONAMENT PLÁCIDO DOMINGO”
PALAU DE LES ARTS REINA SOFÍA, VALENCIA, SPAIN**

This course is designed for candidates who possess the necessary artistic qualities and predisposition toward the music world, as well as adequate theoretical and technical preparation and a sufficiently advanced level so as to allow for the perfection of their skills and provide them with practical training in a world-class opera house.

The course likewise aims to facilitate the entry of the course participants into the world of professional opera, guaranteeing through the high level of training that the candidates will be able to develop a solid and advanced technical, dramatic, and cultural background by utilizing the characteristics and potential of an outstanding and internationally renowned operatic centre, namely the **Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía**, in Valencia, Spain.

Position: Opera singer-Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía

1. Application period

This date marks the official beginning of the application period for the selection of candidates for enrollment in the “Centre de Perfeccionament Plácido Domingo” at the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía in Valencia, Spain.

2. Requirements

The course is aimed at individuals who are currently unemployed, of legal age, and who have completed their secondary school education (*Bachiller*). Participants from the Autonomous Region of Valencia, as well as citizens from throughout the EU and other countries are welcome to apply.

To apply for this course, the candidates must:

- provide proof that they have received adequate musical and vocal education and training in either a public or a private conservatory, institute, or academy.
- provide proof of a contrastive experience in the area of operatic theatre and/or qualified concert activity.

Preference will be given to those candidates who possess the following characteristics:

-certification of adequate vocal training and education from a qualified instructor.

-knowledge of a foreign language (such as English, French, German, Italian) or, in the case of foreign candidates, Spanish.

3. Professional profile and course objectives

The Centre wishes to train – both organically and conceptually – professional opera singers, seeking to facilitate as much as possible the entry of its students into the professional music world.

4. Structure and duration of the course

The admission of the selected applicants will be subject to their acceptance, in writing, of the Rules and Norms of the Centre prior to the beginning of the course.

The course will take place from April to December, 2009. The course is set up to offer 694 hours of instruction divided into 104 hours of “theory-practice” classes, 575 hours of practical experience, and 15 hours of exams and evaluations.

Various educational and artistic collaborations with other European theatres are also foreseen as part of the program of studies.

The students will receive instruction from qualified teachers; they will attend meetings and master classes with orchestra directors, stage directors, singers, and other artists and professionals participating in the productions and events programmed for the current season of the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía. They may also attend scheduled rehearsals of the operas and concerts taking place in the various venues of the Palau.

Participation in the educational and artistic activities of the Centre, including taking part in all concerts and operas in the various roles assigned to them by the administration of the Centre, is mandatory for all course participants.

4. Course location

The course will be offered at the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía in Valencia, Spain.

5. Application process

The application for admission to the selection audition must be duly filled out with all the requested personal information, including a contact address and telephone number, and accompanied by the following documents:

- attached form, duly filled out.
- a detailed c.v.
- birth and residency certificates.
- a certificate of musical and vocal studies as well as for all other academic titles.
- two recent photographs, a portrait ("head-shot") and a full-body photograph.
- the candidate's choice of program for the audition (see section 7).

Should any of the information on the application prove to be false or incorrect, the applicant will be excluded from the audition. The application documents will not be returned.

All application materials for the selection audition must be sent by e-mail to the Centre de Perfeccionament Plácido Domingo del Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia before **14 February 2009**.

The e-mail address to which applications should be sent is:
centredeperfeccionament@lesarts.com

Applications received after this date but before the auditions themselves may be considered on an exceptional, case by case basis by the administration of the Centre.

7. Selection auditions

The candidates will be selected by means of an audition.

Once accepted to participate in the selection auditions, the candidate must present 4 operatic arias (2 in Italian and 2 in another language), a chamber music aria, and a sacred music aria.

The candidate may substitute one of the 4 operatic arias for an operetta (*zarzuela*) romance.

The arias must be sung, without cuts, rigorously in the original language and tonality, including the recitative and, if applicable, the *cabaletta*.

For the audition, the candidate must perform from memory one of the operatic arias presented previously of his or her own choosing.

The organizing committee may request the candidate to perform another (or various) aria(s).

The selection committee may choose to listen to the arias in their entirety or to limit the audition to a fragment thereof.

The candidate must bring the sheet music of the selected arias to the audition. These will be played on the piano by a maestro repertory pianist from the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia. The candidates may also opt to bring their own pianist to the audition.

The auditions will take place on the following days:

27th and 28th February and 1st March 2009 (first round)

7th March 2009 (final audition)

8. Number of candidates to be admitted

The selection committee will be responsible for choosing the candidates to be admitted to the course.

The maximum number of participants in the course will be 15.

9. Course content

The primary content of the course concerns the preparation of concerts and operatic productions that will comprise part of the season's program of the Centre as well as part of the general season's program of the Palau de les Arts.

Course content: Symphonic operatic repertory; theatre arts; musical language; performance psychology; languages as applied to opera singing; introduction to the legal, economic, and organizational aspects of an artistic career; the principal works, composers, and personalities of the opera; Phoniatry; the Alexander Technique; Wig-making; Make-up; Lighting; etc.

10. Leaves of absence for artistic purposes

Course attendance is mandatory. Nevertheless, the Centre reserves the right to grant candidates limited leaves of absence depending on the artistic quality of the performance in question and the educational requirements of the Centre. This is not at any time to be considered the right of any particular candidate, but rather an exceptional concession granted on a case by case basis at the sole discretion of the administration of the Centre.

11. Scholarships and grants

The course will be free of charge for all students admitted.
In addition, grants of 5,000 € will be provided to each student who is admitted to and enrolls in the course.

12. Relationship of course participants with the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia

The administration of the Centre, by mutual agreement with the Artistic Director of the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia, may offer course participants who are deemed suitable the possibility of performing in concerts programmed to take place in the various venues of the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia.

At the end of the course, the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia is planning to establish other forms of collaboration with the course participants.

13. Certificate of successful participation in the course

At the end of the course, once the final exam has been passed, participants will receive an official certificate from the “Centre de Perfeccionament Plácido Domingo” in collaboration with the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia.

14. Information

For information about the Centre, the courses offered, the auditions, etc., call +34 961975814
or send a query via e-mail to: centredeperfeccionament@lesarts.com